

35. (Amended) A method for preparing a pigment, comprising combining a pigmentary base and an organo-acid phosphate compound, wherein the organo-acid phosphate compound has the formula:



wherein  $x = 1$  or  $2$ ;  
 $y = 3 - x$ ; and  
R is an organic group having from 2 to 22 carbon atoms;

and micronizing said pigmentary base that has been combined with said organo-acid phosphate compound.

#### REMARKS

In the above captioned application, thirty-eight claims are currently pending. The Examiner rejected all of the originally filed claims as not patentable over the following patent application and issued patents: (1) German Patent Application No. 1,234,234; (2) U.S. Patent No. 5,397,391; (3) U.S. Patent No. 5,876,493; (4) U.S. Patent No. 6,270,563; and (5) U.S. Patent No. 5,466,482.

In order to facilitate prosecution, but reserving the right to prosecute the originally filed claims at a later time, Applicants have amended all of the pending claims to reflect compositions and methods in which a pigmentary base has been both treated with an organo-acid phosphate substance and micronized. Micronization provides for increased dispersion capabilities, which are particularly noticeable in organically treated pigments when compared to unm micronized pigments. Dispersion is improved by breaking up clusters of particles into individual particles. Micronized pigments may be distinguished from unm micronized pigments because typically they are less coarse. Support for this amendment is, by way of example, located on page 6, line 12 through page 7, line 8, and page 10, line 3 of the specification.